

The Benefits of Family Forests



Forestry in North Carolina

Landcover: 61% of the state is forestland, for a total of 18.7 million acres.

Ownership: Over 11 million acres of North Carolina’s forestland are owned by 469,000 family forest owners.

Certified Tree Farms: There are 930 certified tree farms in the ATFS program for a total of 304,429 acres.

Jobs: The forest products industry directly employs over 63,000 people and contributes \$1.8 billion in annual payroll.

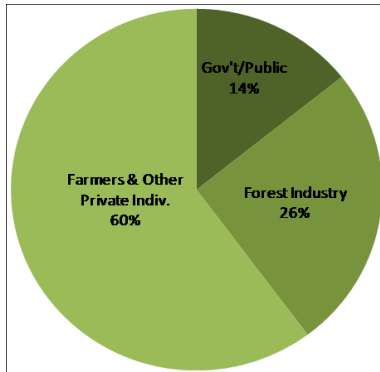
Wood: This industry is the 4th largest manufacturing sector in the state, comprising over 7% of the manufacturing workforce.

Wildlife: North Carolina’s long-leaf pine savannas are host to the red-cockaded woodpecker, a very rare, endangered bird in the Southeast.

Water: Two-thirds of NC’s watersheds are 60% forested. In contrast, two-thirds of the subwatersheds in NC are less than 70% forested; evidence indicates that when a watershed’s land cover falls below this threshold, a significant drop in water quality can be expected.

Recreation: There are 304,000 licensed hunters in NC who benefit from well-managed forests.

State Timberland Ownership



Acreage & Ownership of Forestland by Target District

Congressional District	Total	Family Owned	Public	Private In-
NC 01 G. K. Butterfield (D)	2,747,301	1,541,940	235,409	969,952
NC 02 Renee Ellmers (R)	1,435,961	1,098,999	113,758	223,204
NC 07 Mike McIntyre (D)	2,485,325	1,200,823	205,739	1,078,763
NC Larry Kissel (D)	1,244,721	789,329	137,736	317,629

National Statistics and Facts

Landcover: More than half (56%) of the nation’s forests are privately owned.

Jobs: Every 1,000 acres of private forests supports eight well-paying jobs.; each job created in private forests creates an additional 2.95 jobs.

Carbon: Wood building materials—the majority of which are from private forests—reduce energy use and carbon emissions in manufacturing from 70% to 88%.

Wood: Family forests are the economic lynchpin of small towns and rural areas around the nation.

Water: More than 25% of our drinking water originates in private forests.

Wildlife: 60% of all at-risk species rely on America’s private forests.



American Forest Foundation

The American Forest Foundation is a non-profit organization that gives people the tools they need to be effective stewards of America’s natural heritage. We work with educators, family woodlands owners, and partners in every state to keep our forests healthy and our children well-prepared for the future they will inherit. We grow stewardship every day.